

COMMITMENT



Texas Department of Health
Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program

November 1999

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Breast Cancer Awareness Day in Texas

Governor George W. Bush proclaimed October 1 as Breast Cancer Awareness Day in Texas. Wreath ceremonies were held across the state in honor of this day. In Austin, State Senator Jane Nelson spoke on the importance of early detection.

"Women have the best chance of successful treatment and surviving if their cancer is detected early," Nelson said.

Austin breast cancer survivor Ruby Handcox an African American, spoke and appealed to other African American women to get a clinical breast examination and mammogram.

"I am living testimony that you can survive breast cancer," Handcox said. (See Insert for further details on Breast Cancer Awareness Day in Texas)



Tommi Urbanski (left) and Richael McClure, Ph.D. are shown with the wreath they assembled for the Breast Cancer Awareness Day ceremony at the Capitol.

TDH Approved for Mammography Accreditation

Texas Department of Health (TDH) recently became the fourth state approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to accredit mammography facilities. This approval now gives Texas mammography facilities the choice of using the American College of Radiology or TDH as their accreditation agency. Last year,

TDH's Bureau of Radiation Control inspected 585 mammography facilities. Contact Kay Goss-Terry, at the TDH Bureau of Radiation Control, for more information at (512) 834-6688. Refer to the March 1999 issue of *Commitment* for the latest information on mammography regulations.

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BCCCP Briefs

Conferences

“Prevention Successes 2000: Better Health for All” is the theme for the 14th National Conference on Chronic Disease and Prevention and Control. The conference is scheduled for November 30 - December 2, 1999 at The Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas. For more information, contact Estella Lazenby at (301) 588 - 6000 or visit the website at www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/99cdconf.htm.

The **Office of Minority Health** is sponsoring the Seventh Annual Minority Health Conference entitled **“Reflecting on the Past and Shaping the Future of Minority Health”** on December 1 - 3 in Houston. For more information, contact Eva Holguin, Conference Coordinator, at (512) 458-7713.



Who to Call & How to Reach Us...

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Local Changes

Please write or call Rhonda Jones, Administrative Technician, at (800) 452-1955 with **ANY** changes in local telephone numbers, personnel or service delivery sites. *Thank you.*

Avon Education Grants Available

Applications for Cycle XIII of the Avon Breast Health Access Fund will be available in late November. The applications will be due to the National Alliance of Breast Cancer Organizations (NABCO) by January 14, 2000.

The Fund awards grants to worthy community-based programs that provide medically underserved women with direct access to breast cancer education and screening.

The money comes from Avon's Breast Cancer Awareness Crusade. The Crusade raises funds through the sale of special pink ribbon products and through an outdoor fund-raising event called Avon's Breast Cancer 3-Day. More than \$37 million has been distributed to non-profit breast health programs since the Crusade's inception in 1993.

All applicants must propose to prioritize a specific population and demonstrate an understanding of its demographics, attitudes and behavior; deliver accurate, culturally competent educational information on breast cancer; ensure that screening mammograms and clinical breast examinations are received by a specific number of women as a direct result of the program; facilitate logistical and emotional support in the recruitment of medically underserved women in screening mammography programs; ensure follow-up for women with suspicious findings and facilitate rescreening at recommended intervals.

For further information on the Fund, contact Hilary Colwell, NABCO, (212) 889-0606 or email her at hcolwell@interport.net.

Journal Features Special Cancer Issue

The December issue of Journal of Registry Management features a Special Intercultural Cancer Council issue. The issue will feature information on special data needs related to minority populations:

- lack of data on Native Americans
- misclassification in registry data in Latinos

- cancer incidence in poor white rural populations
- rare cancers in Asian populations
- non-American born African Americans

Contact the National Cancer Registrars Association for more information on this issue at (913) 438-NCRA or email them at ncra-info@applmeapro.com.

Mission

The mission of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce the impact of breast and cervical cancer in Texas by promoting access to quality information, screening, diagnosis and treatment in Texas communities.

Goal

The goal of the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program is to reduce premature mortality from breast cancer and cervical cancer in Texas.

Ask the Expert

Don't forget, you can submit your own questions on any subject related to the program such as nursing, case management, billing, data or outreach. Send questions to Andrea Littlefield, Information Specialist, 1100 West 49th Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199.



The hospital we work with does not have a tumor registrar on staff to assist us with a BCCCP case that needs to be staged. How can we get the information to submit this to TDH? When is the information due?



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requires timely staging of all cancers detected for women enrolled in BCCCP. BCCCP policy is that a cancer should be staged within 60 days.

If there is no tumor registrar, you must submit your BCCCP client's signed release to the hospital, requesting an operative report, discharge summary, and pathology report. These should be copied and sent to the state office as soon as possible. Problems in obtaining this information should be reported to your team leader or Vince Crawley, Public Health Technician, at (800) 452-1955.

Case Management Policies Emphasize Outcomes

Recently, changes have been made in the case management policies to emphasize outcomes. Some language has changed to emphasize the timeliness of client notification due to severity of screening or diagnostic result. Programs are also encouraged to assess whether an attempt to reach the client is likely to result in a successful contact. The client plan should include the clients' participation in carrying out the plan.

The new policy emphasizes changes in the client plan when the clients' barriers to obtaining diagnostics or treatment change. Policy

changes emphasize client self sufficiency and encourages case managers to work toward indicators including: shorter intervals, no lost to follow-up or refusals, and treatment initiated within 30 days.

Programs also will need to develop a system to assess client satisfaction of access to and quality of referral services. A client satisfaction survey will be developed by the state office and a workgroup of case management contractors.

The legislation that originally authorized the establishment of the

[Case Management continued on page 4](#)

Komen Foundation Launches New Project

While the number of clinical studies has increased recently, research indicates that fewer than five percent of adult cancer patients in the United States participate in trials testing new cancer treatments – far less than the number needed to answer the most pressing questions. To address this issue, the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation is launching a new initiative, Project CRAFT (Clinical Research Affiliates Funding Trials).

The initiative will be carried out by Komen Foundation Affiliates throughout the country and provide additional funding for clinical trials that are approved by the National Cancer Institute (NCI) in the Affiliates' communities. The goals of CRAFT are to increase the capacity for breast cancer research at the local level, to make existing information about clinical trials readily available to breast cancer patients and physicians, and to enable more women to participate in clinical trials.

The Komen Foundation will provide \$200,000 for the launch of Project CRAFT this year. In addition, each pilot affiliate has earmarked a minimum of \$10,000 (some up to \$50,000) to fund breast cancer clinical trials and related support services specific to the needs in its community.

For more information about CRAFT, call the Komen Foundation's National Toll-Free Helpline, 1-800-I'M AWARE.

Case Management Policies Emphasize Outcomes

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Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Act of 1990 did not specifically reference case management as a program component, though appropriate follow-up was required. In October 1998, Congress modified the legislative authority of the program to include case management. The amendment of 1998 states, "...to ensure the provision of appropriate follow-up services and support services such as case management." With the new legislative change, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

(CDC) developed a comprehensive policy on case management and provides funding to implement the case management process. The policy and funding allow the Texas Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) case management to more clearly define its policies and fund expanded implementation of case management activities.

Changes in case management policies will be incorporated into the BCCCP Manual of Operations. For further information on the policy changes, contact Karen Knox, Case Management Coordinator, at (800) 452-1955.

✂ Save the Date!

BCCCP 2000 State Conference

Monday, May 22 - Tuesday,
May 23, 2000
Omni Austin Hotel Southpark,
Austin

Watch your mail for more
details!

BCCCP Statistics*

Women Served:
116,016
Breast Screenings:
145,617
Cervical Screenings:
107,635
Breast Cancers:
756
Cervical Carcinoma in situ:
1603
Invasive Cervical Cancer:
57

*As of October 7, 1999

Important Dates

November

November - Fall Training
November 4 - Austin Training
November 10 - Corpus Christi Training
November 11 - Veterans' Day
State Office Closed
November 16 - Galveston Training
November 18 - Fort Worth Training
November 25 - Thanksgiving
State Office Closed
November 26 - Day After Thanksgiving - State Office Closed
November 30 - FY99 vouchers due to State Office
November 30 - December 2 - 14th National Conference on Chronic Disease Prevention and Control, Dallas.

December

December 1 - 3 - Minority Health Conference, Houston
December 24 - Christmas Eve Day
State Office Closed
Distribution of new data forms

January

Implementation of new data forms and CD numbers
January 17 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
State Office Closed
January 19 - Confederate Heroes Day
Skeleton Crew at State Office

Commitment

A monthly bulletin

Send news/information to:

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED